

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-19 and 26-41 are pending in the present application. Claims 20-25 and 42-43 were withdrawn by the Examiner as being drawn to non-elected subject matter, and have been cancelled herein to expedite prosecution and without waiver of or prejudice to the right to seek allowance of any claim as previously presented or any other claim that may be supported by the specification. Claims 1, 6 and 13 have been amended. Claims 1, 6, 9 and 13 are independent claims.

**A. Interview Summary**

The Applicants are grateful for the courtesy and respect shown by the Examiner to the undersigned during the telephonic interview of July 14, 2009. Claims 1, 6 and 13 were discussed, as was Andersen (U.S. Patent No. 5,783,126) (herein "Andersen '126"). The undersigned asserted that Andersen '126 discloses that "the coating can be formed during the forming process by adding a coating material that has approximately the same melting temperature as the peak temperature of the mixture" and that "[a]s the mixture is heated, the coating material melts and moves with the vaporized solvent to the surface of the article where it coats the surface," and that such teaching is distinct from the pending claims, which recite the providing of a "coating film" as a distinct step of the claimed method.

The undersigned provided proposed amendments clarifying the language of claims 1, 6, and 13, and understood that the Examiner agreed that the clarifying amendments were sufficient to confirm that the claimed subject matter is allowable over Andersen '126. However, the Examiner suggested that claims 1, 6, and 13 could be further clarified by indicating more expressly that the coating film as set forth in the claims is separate or distinct from the molding material.

**B. Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 9-11, 31, 33, 37, 39 and 40 are allowed.

**C. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 1-6, 12-18, 26-28, 32, 34-36 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Andersen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,783,126). As discussed above, claims 1, 6, and 13, as pending with clarifying amendments, are allowable over Andersen '126. Because claims 2-5, 12, 14-18, 26-28, 32, 34-36 and 38 each depends, directly or indirectly, from claim 1, 6, or 13, and therefore incorporate each of the limitations of the claim from which it depends, those claims are allowable over Andersen '126 for the same reasons as claims 1, 6, and 13 are allowable over Andersen '126.

**D. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 7-8 and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Andersen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,783,126). As discussed above, claims 1 and 6, as pending with clarifying amendments, are allowable over Andersen '126. Because claims 7-8 and 29-30 each depends, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 or 6, and therefore incorporate each of the limitations of the claim from which it depends, those claims are allowable over Andersen '126 for the same reasons as claims 1 and 6 are allowable over Andersen '126.

Claims 19 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Andersen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,783,126) in view of Okazaki et al. (EP 0679609 A2). As discussed above, claims 1 and 6, as pending with clarifying amendments, are

allowable over Andersen '126. Because claims 19 and 41 each depends, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 or claim 6, and therefore incorporate each of the limitations of the claim from which it depends, those claims are allowable over Andersen '126 for the same reasons as claims 1 and 6 are allowable over Andersen '126.

**D. Applicants Request Consideration Of The Ids Filed May 12, 2009**

On May 12, 2009, Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement along with the appropriate fee. On the same day, the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued the current Office Action. In response to the current Office Action, Applicants have filed this Amendment along with an RCE. Rather than re-file the Information Disclosure Statement of May 12, 2009 with the RCE, **Applicants request the Examiner consider the Information Disclosure Statement as previously filed.**

**CONCLUSION**

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections of claims 1-8, 12-19, 26-30, 32, 34-36, 38, 41 is respectfully requested, and allowance of each of claims 1-19 and 26-41 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

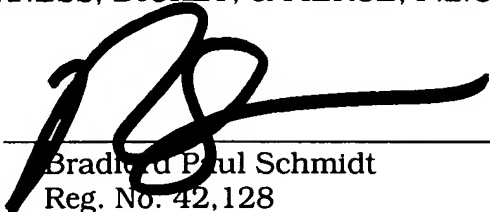
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: \_\_\_\_\_



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